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**PATENT APPLICATION**  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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<u>November 2, 1999</u>	
(date)	<u>Alan Israel</u>
Reg. No. 27,564	

In re: Application of : Richard John PROCTOR

Filed : November 2, 1999

For : TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS

New York, New York  
November 2, 1999

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Box: Patent Application  
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and before examination, kindly amend the above captioned application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

7. (Amended) The telecommunications system of Claim 4 [as dependant from Claim 3] wherein at least some of the telephone exchanges are trunk exchanges, and wherein communication between the local exchanges and the trunk exchanges uses ATM.